



Weather Briefing

February 26, 2013



National Weather Service
Detroit/Pontiac, MI

<http://www.weather.gov/dtx>

Email: w-dtx.webmaster@noaa.gov

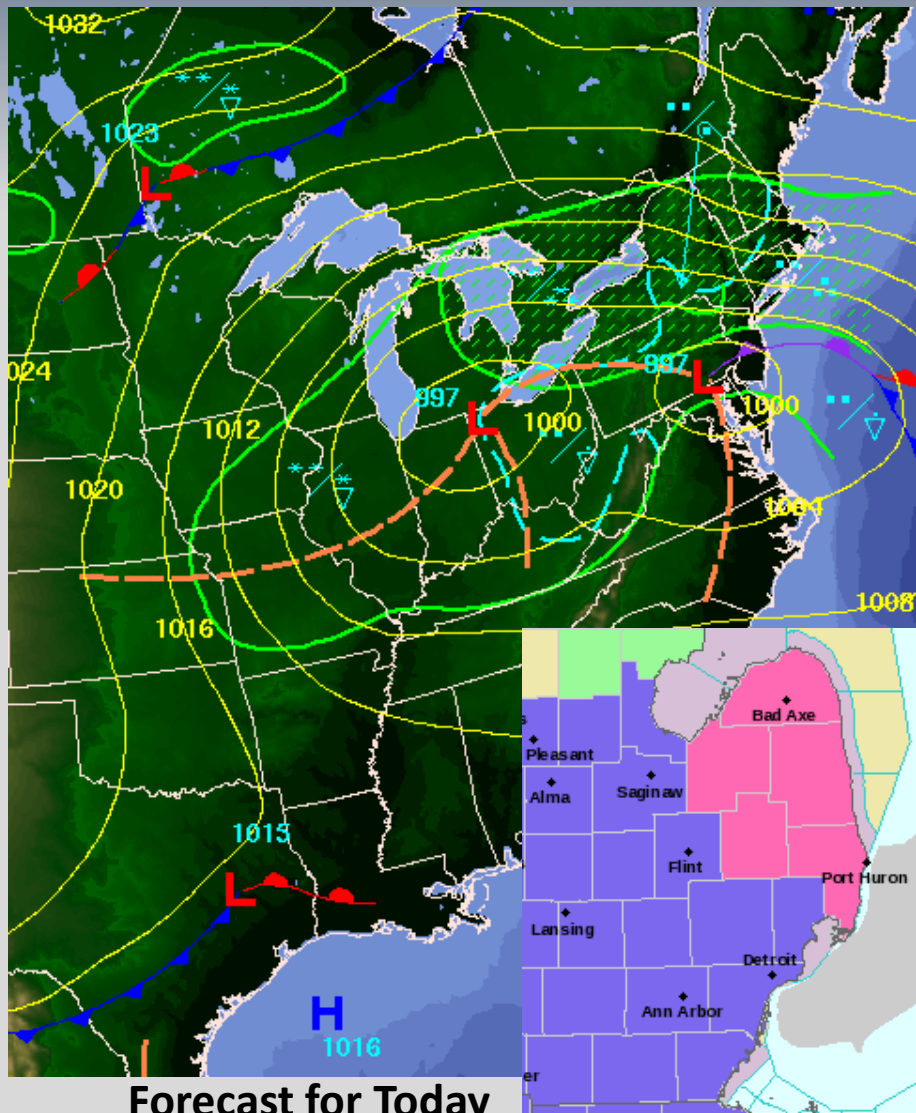


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Decision Support Briefing Highlights



Forecast for Today

Event Summary

Winter Storm Warning

Starting at 6 PM for Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac,
Lapeer and St. Clair counties into
Wednesday Morning

5 to 8 inches of snow expected

Winter Weather Advisory

Starting at 6 PM for Midland, Bay, Saginaw,
Shiawassee and Genesee counties and
Starting at 3 pm for Livingston, Oakland,
Macomb, Washtenaw, Wayne, Lenawee and
Monroe counties into Wednesday Morning

3-5 inches of snow expected

Snow, initially mixed with rain or sleet south
of about Interstate 69, will overspread
Southeast MI this afternoon into this evening.



Winter Watch Hazard Risk Assessment



Extreme

High

Moderate

Low



**This Potential Event is a
Common to Rare
Weather Event**

**Potential to Cause Disruption to
Daily Life**

Recovery Time

**Around When Weather Hazard
Ends to a Couple of Days**

Extreme:

- Historic Weather Hazard/Event
- Life Threatening
- Total disruption of daily life
- Recovery Time: days to one week

High:

- Rare Weather Hazard/Event
- Potentially Life Threatening
- Widespread disruption of daily life
- Recovery Time: hours to a couple days

Moderate:

- Common Weather Hazard/Event
- Rarely directly life threatening
- Some disruption of daily life
- Recovery Time: +/- 6 hrs of when weather ends



Potential Impacts



Road Conditions

- Roads covered with heavy wet snow will result in poor traction

Additional Potential Impacts

- Power Outages due to heavy wet snow possible
- Low visibility due to high snowfall rates

Power Outage Potential	High	Medium 	Low
Blowing/Drifting Potential	High	Medium	Low 



Timing of Winter Weather



Beginning

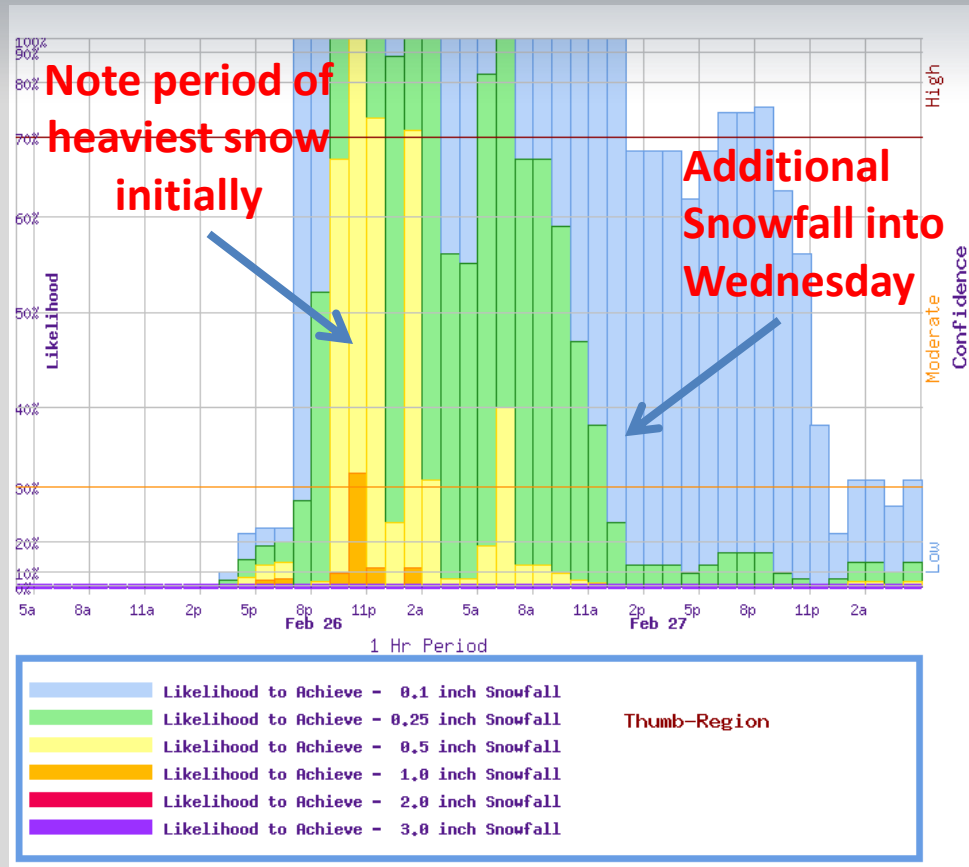
- Snow, initially mixed with rain or sleet, will expand south to north this afternoon

Heaviest

- The heaviest snow is expected from late afternoon into evening.

Ending

- Occasional snowfall will persist into Wednesday



Hourly Snowfall

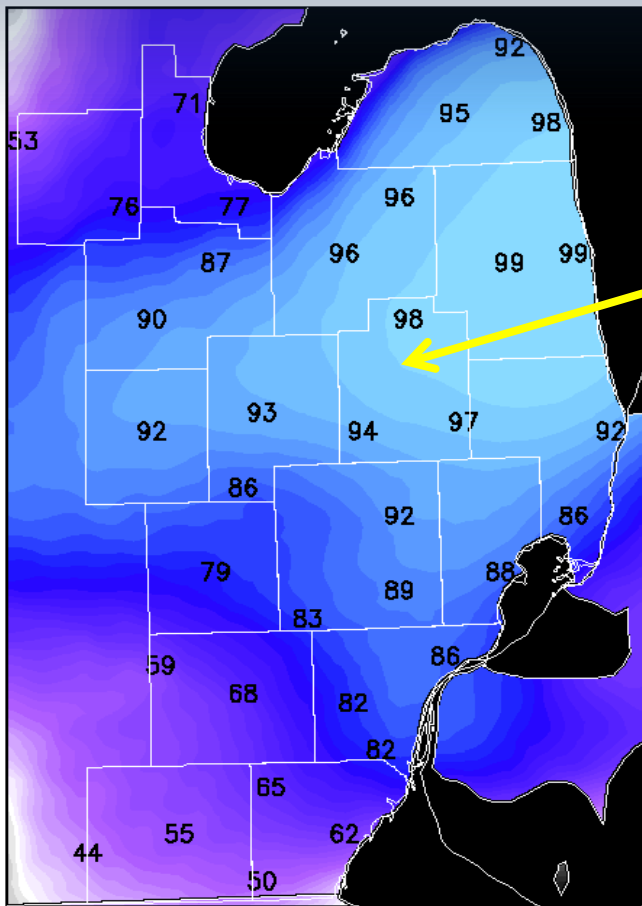


Snowfall Confidence

Storm Total by Wednesday



Storm PSnow (%) thru 02/27/2013 18EST



Prob to Achieve 4 in (%)

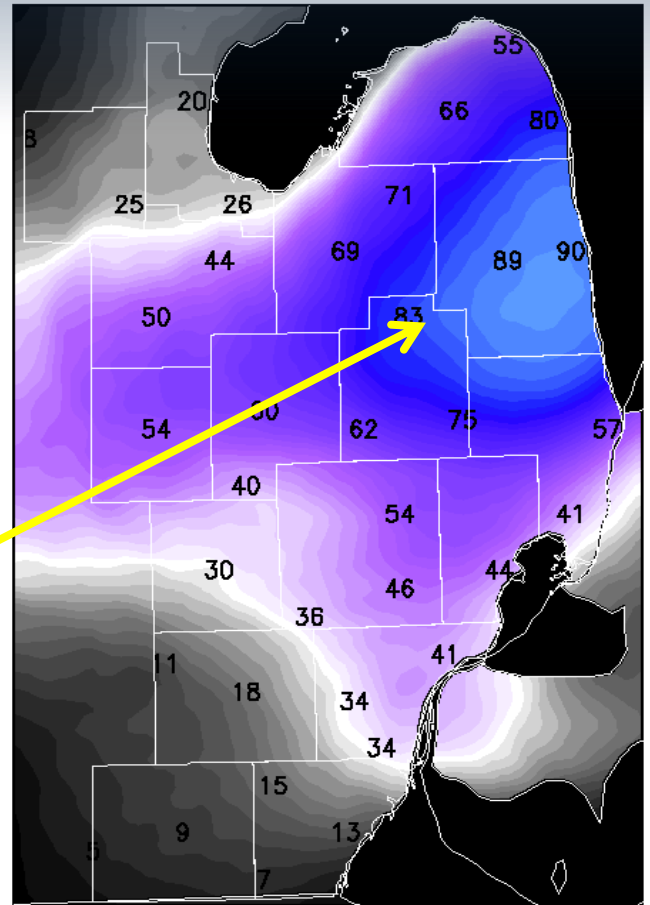
2 18 30 44 58 72 86

AREA View

High confidence
snowfall totals will
exceed 4 inches.

Moderate to High
confidence snowfall
totals will exceed 6
inches

Storm PSnow (%) thru 02/27/2013 18EST



Prob to Achieve 6 in (%)

2 18 30 44 58 72 86

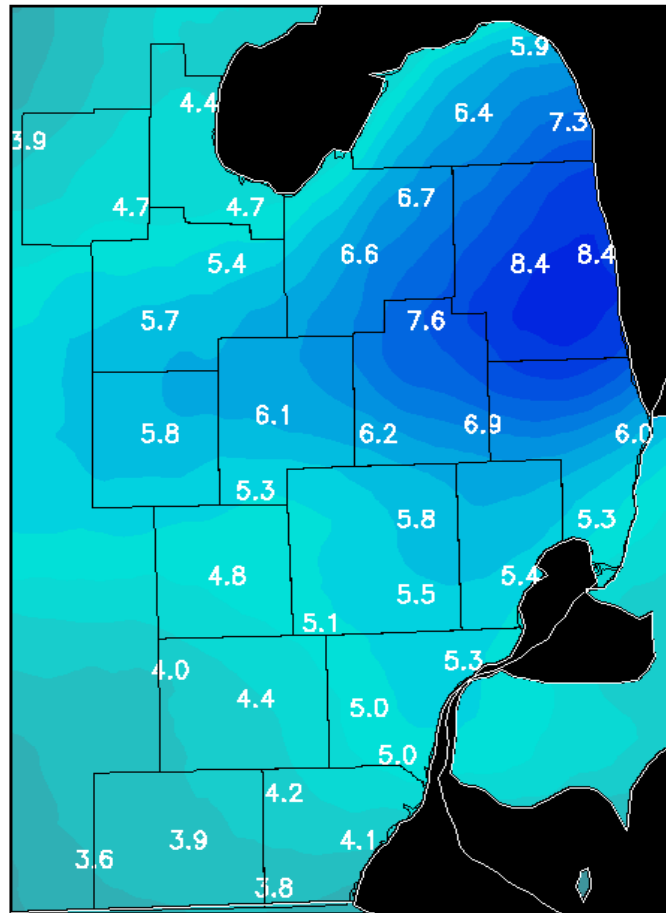


Storm Total Snowfall

Late Tuesday into Wednesday



Storm Total SnowAmt thru 02/27/2013 18EST



Snow Accumulation

Potential for 5 to 8 inches in Thumb and
3 to 6 inches elsewhere over Southeast
Michigan by Wednesday

Type of Snow

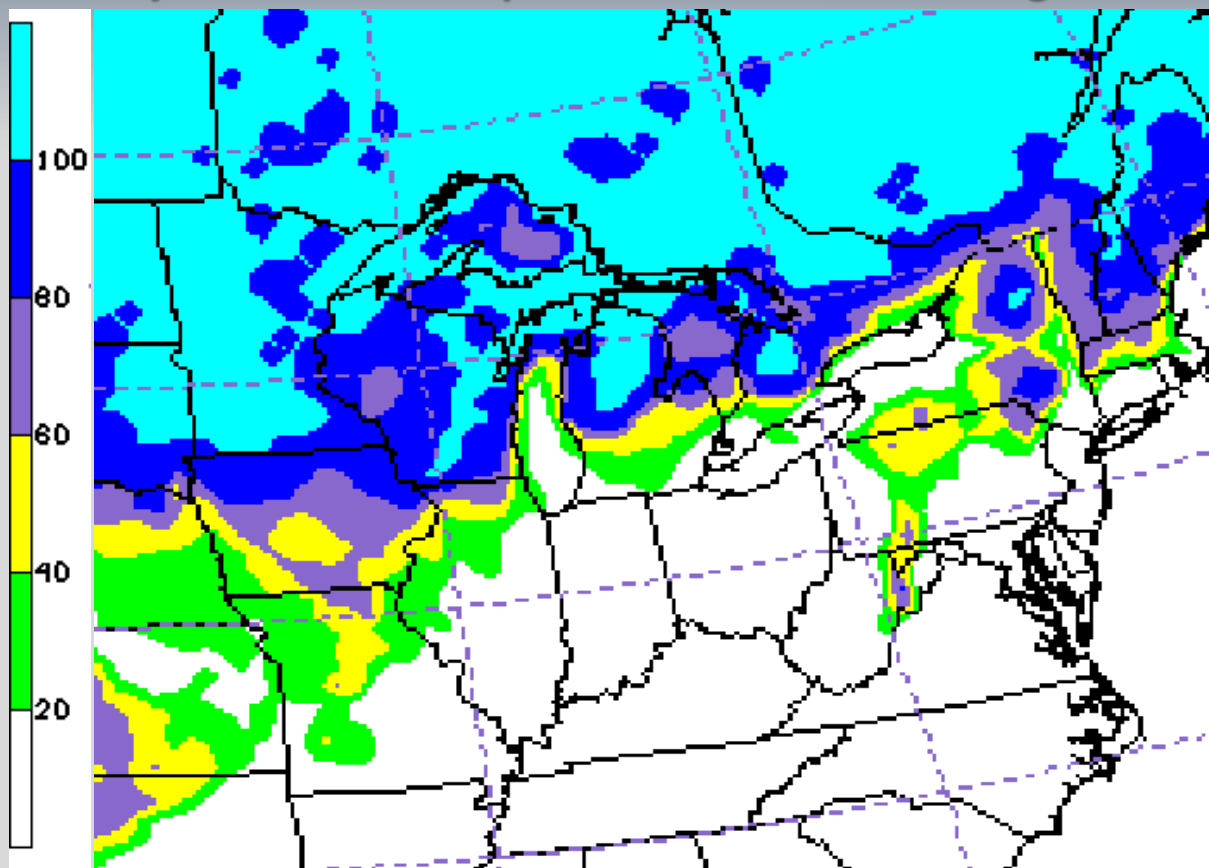
Heavy and Wet
Snow Ratios of 7:1 to 10:1



Forecast Challenges



Probability of surface temperatures below freezing this afternoon



Sub-freezing surface temperatures are not a necessity for snow, but in this case the thermal structure is borderline and potential exists for some areas to see a mix of snow, sleet and rain, especially south of Interstate 69. This will most likely cut down on snowfall accumulations.



Additional Information



Local Hazards Page

<http://www.weather.gov/detroit/svr.php>

Great Lakes Marine Portal

<http://www.weather.gov/greatlakes>

Hourly Wind Probabilities

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dtx/?n=pwind>

Hourly Snowfall Probabilities

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dtx/?n=hourlysnowprobabilities>

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